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Before the
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

FEB - 8 2000

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

In the Matter of)
Implementation of Sections 255 and 251 (a)(2))
of the Communications Act of 1934,)
as Enacted by the Telecommunications Act of 1996)
Access to Telecommunications Service,)
Telecommunications Equipment and)
Customer Premises Equipment by)
Persons with Disabilities)

MM Docket No. 96-198

**American Foundation for the Blind
Motion for Extension of Reply Comment Deadline**

Pursuant to 47 C.F.R. Section 146, the American Foundation for the Blind requests that the Commission extend the reply comment deadline with respect to the Notice of Inquiry (NOI) in the above captioned proceeding by fifteen (15) days from the time that comment replies have been posted at a minimum in HTML or ASCII text format. As discussed below, AFB believes that there is good cause to provide a brief extension of the deadline for reply comments.

Comments which can be accessed through the Electronic Filing System are currently available only in Adobe PDF format. At the present time no reliable access technology exists which can enable a blind user to access this format. As a result these filings are not available in an equivalent accessible format which makes it impossible to review them and file reply comments in the current schedule. For this reason, AFB respectfully requests that the Commission extend the reply comment deadlines in the manner specified above.

Respectfully submitted,

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Alan M. Dinsmore

February 8, 2000

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